GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2672
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2006
UNDER PENDING OF FUNDS
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether various Ministries of the Government of India have not spent the budget allocated to them during 2005-06 as reported in the `Times of India` dated February 19, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this trend has continuously been seen during the last three years;

(d) whether Finance Ministry has issued guidelines to all the Ministries to spend allocated amount within time and avoid last minute rush to spend the maximum amount of the budget allocation;

(e) if so, whether Ministries are not following these guidelines; and

(f) if so, the steps taken or being taken to instruct the Ministries/Departments of Government to spend budget allocation within time schedule?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal)

(a) to (f) : Due to various reasons specific to each Ministry/Department, it is not always possible to have a uniform pace of expenditure throughout the year. The Ministry of Finance has been impressing upon the Ministries/Departments from time to time the need to plan expenditures so as to avoid rush of expenditure towards the end of the financial year. It is indeed a matter of satisfaction that the position is improving in this regard. By the end of January 2006, the Plan expenditure in 2005-06 was 71% of Budget as compared to only 61% of Budget spent during the period April 2004-January 2005. This shows a major improvement in overall position of pace of expenditure.